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## PATENT SPECIFICATION

Application Date: May 3, 1922. No. 12,539/22.

201,645

Complete Left: March 2, 1923.

Complete Accepted: Aug. 3, 1923.

### PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION.

#### Golf Practising Device.

I, GEORGE FREDERICK GILBEY-THOMPSON, of 5, Grosvenor Gardens, Muswell Hill, London, N. 10, British subject, do hereby declare the nature of this invention to be as follows:—

This invention has for its object a device whereby the strokes in the game of golf may be practised in a restricted area. The device is constructed in the following manner. I employ two upright stakes or poles of any suitable height having spikes, plates, or shoes for fixing to the ground or floor, with guy ropes and pegs to hold same firmly. Two wires, cords or the like are brought down from the top of the stakes or posts converging to any distance, and secured at their extremities to pins fixed in ground or floor. A golf ball attached to any desired length of cord, wire, or the like having loops or rings at its extremities

is so arranged with a cross member of cord, wire, or the like having two loops or rings so that the said loops or rings run up or down the wires or cords fixed to the stakes or posts. The length of the said cord is determined by the width at which the stakes or posts are set apart. It will thus be seen that while the transverse cord runs in the direction of the two posts or stakes until arrested by the converging wires or cords connected thereto because of the predetermined length of the transverse cord, the ball has free movement along the transverse cord on account of the ring attached to its cord which travels along the transverse cord and gives the operator the true direction in which the ball would have travelled had it been free.

Dated the 3rd day of May, 1922.

G. F. GILBEY-THOMPSON, Capt.

### COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

#### Golf Practising Device.

I, GEORGE FREDERICK GILBEY-THOMPSON, British subject, of 5, Grosvenor Gardens, Muswell Hill, London, N. 10, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to golf practising devices and has for its object to provide an improved device of the captive ball type to enable the game of golf to be practised in a restricted area, either outdoors or indoors.

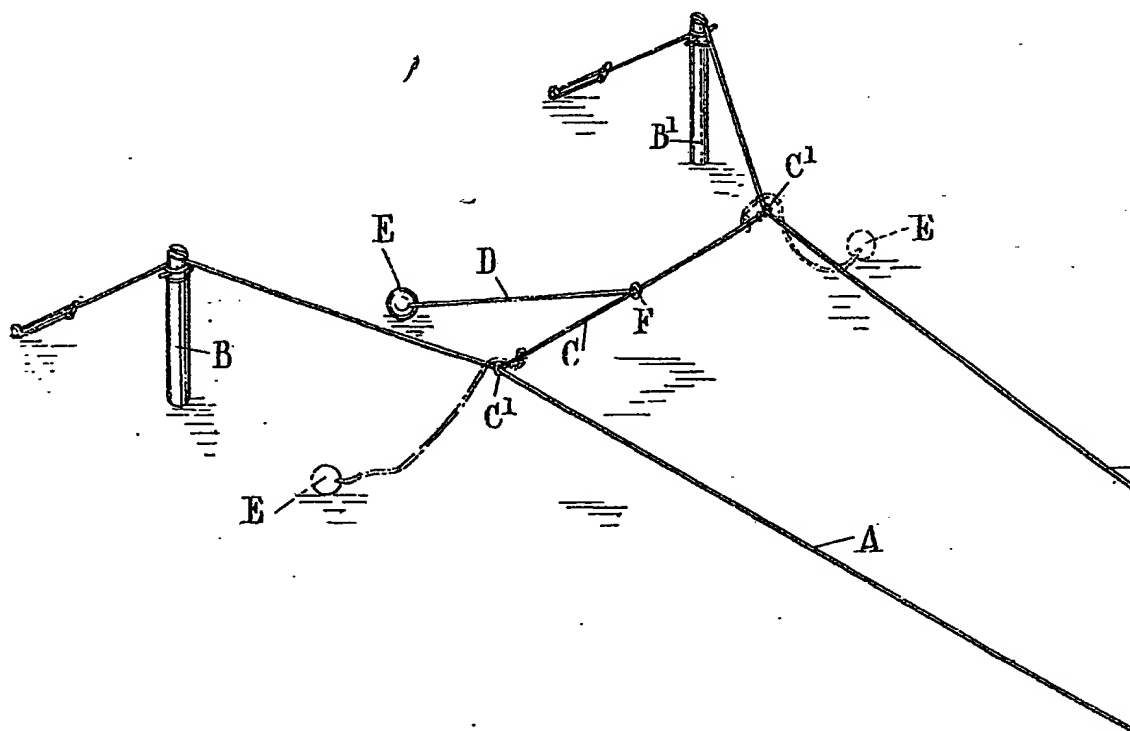
With the above object in view the invention in its broad aspect consists in a golf practising device wherein the ball

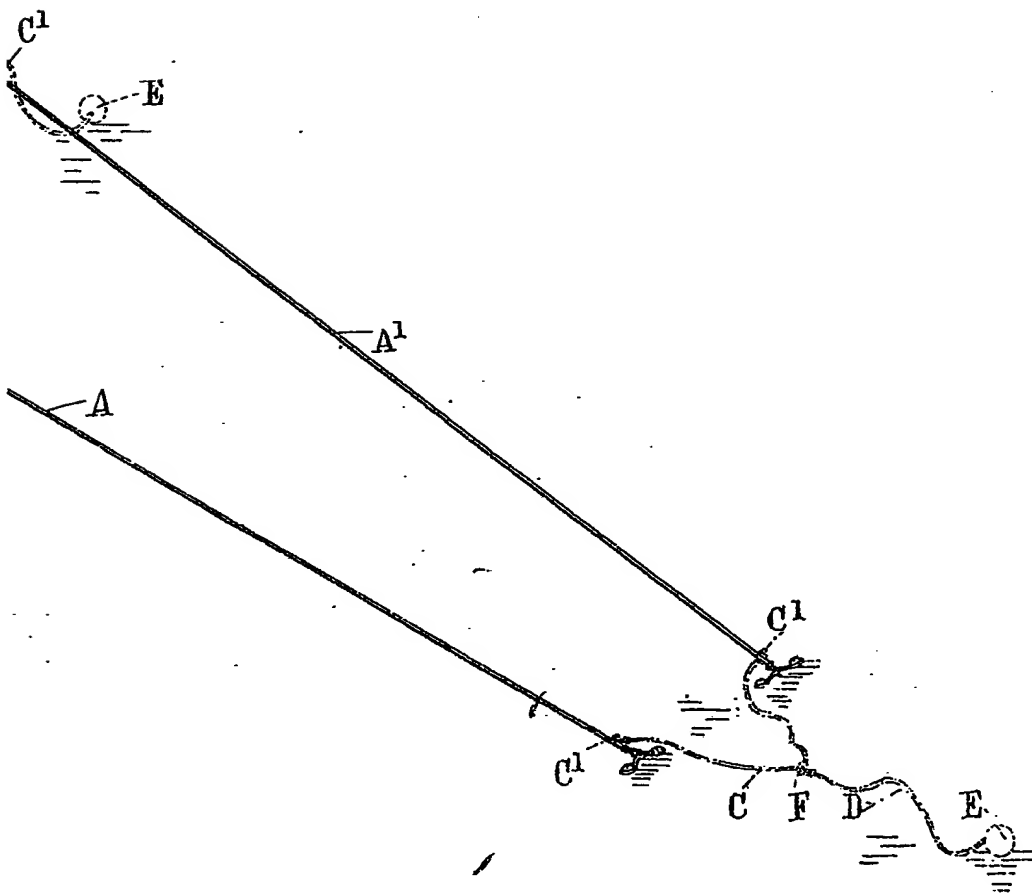
is slidably anchored to a flight breaking truck anchored to the ground.

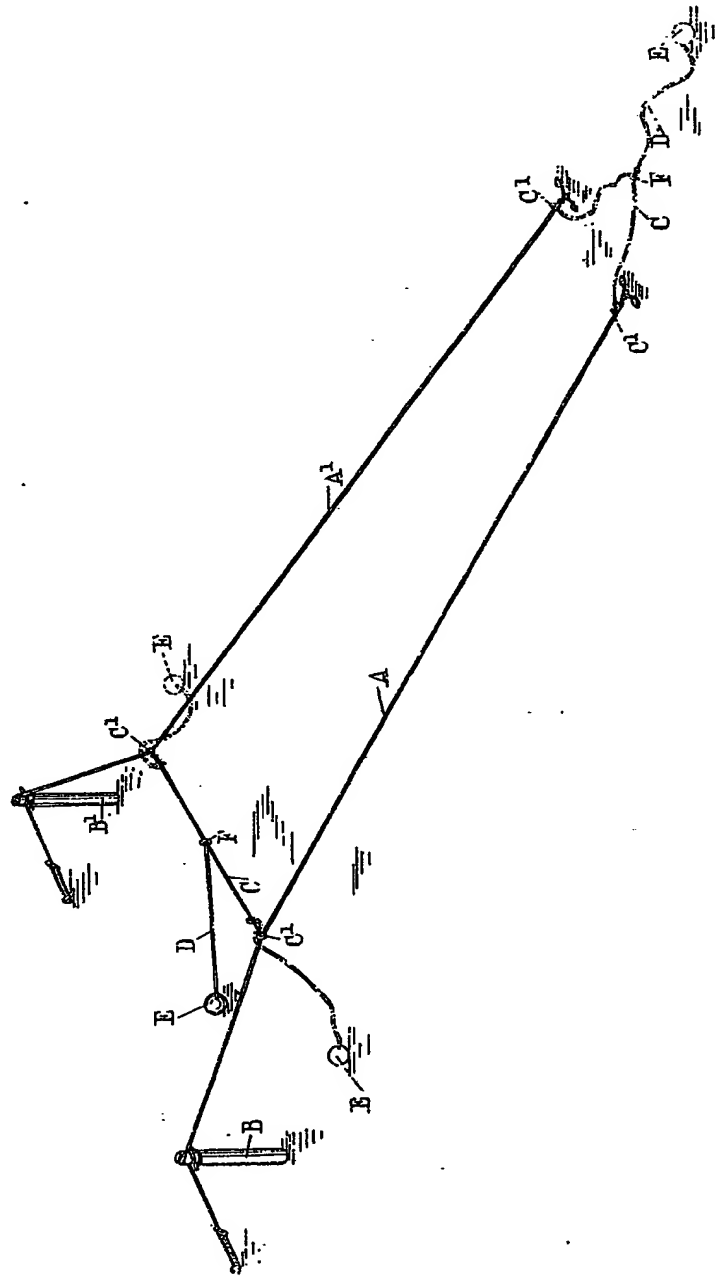
One simple practical embodiment of the invention comprises two slightly diverging wires or cords secured to the ground or to stakes or poles driven therein, and a transverse wire or cord connected slidably at its ends as by rings to the said diverging wires or cords. The ball is fastened to the transverse wire or cord preferably by a wire or cord and a terminal ring. The distance apart of the diverging wires or cords constituting the track and the extent of their divergence is such that the transverse wire or rope is slack when extending across it at the narrow end but is too short to extend across

- it at its wide end. Consequently when the ball is struck and causes the transverse wire to travel with it along the track the said wire eventually reaches a point where it becomes so taut between the track wires as to bring the ball to rest. The position of the ball relatively to the transverse wire or cord is an indication of the character of the stroke.
- 10 The accompanying drawing is a perspective view of my improved device in one of its embodiments.
- A and A<sup>1</sup> are the two diverging wires constituting the track. These wires are 15 pegged to the ground at the narrow end of the track and are secured at the wide end to two stakes or poles B and B<sup>1</sup> respectively so as to constitute an upwardly inclined and slightly diverging track.
- 20 Spikes, plates or shoes may be used for fixing the stakes or poles upright with guy ropes to the ground or floor. C is the transverse cord slidably connected by rings C<sup>1</sup> to the track wires, and D is a 25 cord connected at one end to the ball E and provided at its other end with a ring F encircling the cord C. The cords C and D constitute the means for anchoring the ball to the track.
- 30 In using the device the ball is placed at the narrow end of the track as shown and is struck by the player whereupon it flies forward in the direction of the track carrying with it the anchoring means C D until the divergence of the 35 track wires forming a brake action causes the wire C to be drawn taut thereby bringing the ball gradually to rest.
- If the ball when brought to rest lies 40 about midway between the track wires it may be assumed that the ball was struck squarely but if it lies decidedly to one side (as shown in dotted lines) it is an indication that the ball was pulled 45 or sliced as the case may be. In other words the final position of the ball indicates to the player the true position in which the ball would have travelled had it been free. The distance up the track to 50 which the ball reaches before being brought to rest is an indication of the power of the stroke.
- Obviously the rings above mentioned might be replaced by actual loops of the 55 respective wires or cords.
- The many advantages of the above described device will be readily appreciated and apparent. In addition to those above mentioned in connection with indicating the nature of the player's stroke, the following points may also be observed. A full weight golf ball may be employed and in fact ordinary golf balls as used on the course may be pierced or provided with an eye or the like for anchoring to the device. The direction and approximate extent of flight of the ball is always known and the nature of the ground whether even or uneven is immaterial. The length and divergence of the track wires may be chosen to suit playing spaces of widely varying dimensions. The ball may be teed on a mat, if desired. For a considerable distance from the point of impact of the ball the latter travels quite unimpeded and the player therefore experiences all the conditions of actual play in the practising of his strokes. There is not undue strain on any one part of the device.
- Although I have used the term golf practising device I intend this term to include an amusement device generally of the character described as it offers amusement and exercise apart from improving a golfer's skill.
- Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:—
1. A golf practising device wherein the ball is slidably anchored to a flight braking track anchored to the ground.
  2. A golf practising device comprising a track composed of two diverging wires or cords and a ball anchored to said track by a slidable connection.
  3. A golf practising device as claimed in Claim 2 in which the ball is connected to one end of a wire or cord the other end of which is slidably connected to a transverse wire or cord constituting the slidable connection between the track wires or cords.
  4. A golf practising device having its parts arranged and adapted to operate substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawing for the purpose specified.
- Dated the 2nd day of March, 1923.
- For G. F. GILBEY-THOMPSON.  
White, Langner, Stevens & Parry,  
Chartered Patent Agents,  
Jessel Chambers, 88—90, Chancery Lane,  
London, W.C. 2, and  
177, William Street, New York, U.S.A.

[This Drawing is a full-size reproduction of the Original.]







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